

What is claimed is:

1. A recording and/or reproducing apparatus for use with a storage medium comprising:  
a pickup unit to optically transfer audio data and catalog information between the storage medium and the apparatus;  
a buffer to store the catalog information; and  
a controller to control the pickup unit to read the catalog information from a first region of the storage medium, to buffer the read catalog information, and when the read catalog information is buffered, to read and decode the audio data and catalog playback information from a second region of the storage medium while reading and decoding the buffered catalog information from the buffer according to the read catalog playback information,  
wherein the first region is in an area of the storage medium other than the second region.
2. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the storage medium has an audio region for the audio data which includes an audio data recording region in which the audio data is recorded.
3. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the storage medium has an audio data recording region in which the audio data is recorded and an image information region in which the catalog information is recorded.
4. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller further receives a selection of a user and reads the catalog information from the buffer according to the selection of the user.
5. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 4, wherein the controller further preferentially reads the catalog information selected by the user, and otherwise reads the catalog information satisfying a predetermined condition.
6. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 5, wherein the predetermined condition is at least one of the user not making the selection of the catalog information for a predetermined amount of time, and setting a catalog auto presentation mode.
7. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the catalog information includes common catalog data for information commonly applied for the entire audio

data recorded on the storage medium and title catalog data having information corresponding to each distinct item of the audio data.

8. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 7, wherein the catalog playback information further includes a file identifier and an auto presentation information table determining a location of the catalog information to be played back corresponding to a predetermined time in accordance with real-time playback information of audio obtained from the audio data during real-time playing back.

9. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 8, wherein the read the catalog information read from the buffer comprises common catalog information which the controller reads according to a predetermined sequence stored in the auto presentation information table.

10. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the catalog information includes a still picture for a background image, a sub-picture for a caption, and navigation information for controlling the still picture and the sub-picture, wherein the controller reads and decodes the still picture and the sub-picture from the buffer using the navigation information.

11. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 10, wherein the catalog playback information includes information on a location of an image information region on the storage medium in which the still picture, sub-picture and navigation information are recorded.

12. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the catalog playback information further includes a file identifier and an auto presentation information table determining a location of the catalog information to be played back corresponding to a predetermined time in accordance with real-time playback information of audio obtained from the audio data during real-time playing back.

13. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 12, wherein the controller reads the still picture and the sub-picture from the buffer according to a predetermined sequence stored in the auto presentation information table.

14. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 10, wherein the controller further receives a selection of a user, and reads the still picture and the sub-picture from the buffer according to the selection of the user.

15. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 14, wherein the controller further preferentially reads the still picture and the sub-picture selected by the user, and otherwise reads the still picture and the sub-picture satisfying a predetermined condition.

16. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is at least one of the user not making the selection of the still picture and the sub-picture for a predetermined amount of time, and setting a catalog auto presentation mode.

17. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller further reads from the second region the catalog playback information connecting the audio data and the buffered catalog information while reading the audio data from the second region, and reads and decodes the catalog information from the buffer based upon the read catalog playback information.

18. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 17, wherein:  
the catalog playback information comprises an auto presentation information table determining the catalog information to be played back corresponding to a predetermined time in accordance with the catalog playback information obtained from the audio data; and  
the controller reads the audio data from the storage medium and the catalog information from the buffer in accordance with the auto presentation information table.

19. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 18, wherein the catalog playback information comprises a file identifier and the auto presentation information table determines a location of the catalog information to be played back corresponding to a predetermined time in accordance with real-time playback information of audio obtained from the audio data during real-time playing back.

20. The recording and/or reproducing apparatus of claim 19, wherein the controller reads the catalog information from the buffer according to a predetermined sequence stored in the auto presentation information table.

21. A recording and/or reproducing apparatus which transfers encoded audio data with respect to a first region on a storage medium, comprising:

    a pickup unit to optically transfer audio data with respect to the first region and catalog information with respect to a second region of the storage medium other than the first region;

    a buffer to store the catalog information; and

    a controller to control the pickup unit to read the audio data and catalog playback information from the first region of the storage medium while the catalog information is read from the buffer according to the read catalog playback information.